(c) and (d) There is no proposal for Government to instal phosphatic fertilizer plants in any Gulf country or in Canada. However, based on a request from M|s. SPIC, Government approved on 28.6.90 setting up of a joint venture project for the manufacture of 2.08 lakh tonnes of phosphoric acid per annum in Jordan. An application was reecived by Government on 7-7-1992 from M|s. Titagarh Steels Limited for setting up a joint venture project to manufacture phosphoric acid in Israel.

Liability of S.G. Phamaceuticals

4618. SHRI NYODEK YONGGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the liability of S.G. Pharmaceuticals in respect of Xylocaine;

(b) whether it is a fact that Special Team did not assets the liabilities;

(c) whether it is a fact that company went to the Court;

(d) if so, when and what are the details thereof;

(e) what is the present position in this regard;

(f) what are the details of cases where neither the special team nor the department assessed the liabilities; and

(g) what are the names of companies which neither responded nor provided data despite notices issued by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) To the extent information available, there is no liability of M|s. S. C. Pharmaceuticals in respect of Xylocaine.

(b) to (e) Does not arise.

(f) and (g) Assessment of tentative liabilities of the companies on account of violation of the various provisions of the DPCOs and | or because of the judgement of the courts, has already been completed in a number of cases, while in respect of remaining cases, all efforts are being made to copmlete the same as quickly as possible. In a number of cases the progress has been hampered on accunt of non-receipt of complete data for the entire relevant period. The companies have been informed that in case they do not cooperate, the Government will be left with no alternative but to compute their liabilities on the basis of whatever data becomes available to it from wherever. The question of any company being let off does not arise. All efforts will be made to effect the recoveries as legally permisible.

Transfer of Land by the Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited, Sindri Unit

4619. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:

SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a piece of land was transferred to the Bihar State Housing Board by the management of the F. C. I. Sindri Unit for launching housing scheme;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Sindri Unit management has not handed over the said piece of land to the Bihar State Housing Board;

(c) whether there is any request from Bihar State Housing Board pending before the Sindri Unit management in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN) :(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Initially a plot of land measuring 34 acres was handed over to Bihar State Housing Board (BSHB) in 1978. However, BSHB informed FCI in 1986 that the said plot was in the coal bearing zone as per certificate issued by Chief of Geology, Bharat Coking Coal Ltd., Bihar and requested for an alternate land in Manoharland and Saharpura area. There was no follow up of this case by BSHB for some years and the matter was again revived by BSHB only in June, 1992.

Import of Fertilizers

4620. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the import of nitrogenous, phosphatic and potassic fertilisers in last three years; and

(b) what steps the Ministry is taking to increase the fertilizer application?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI CHINTA MOHAN): (a) The following quantities of fertilizers have been imported during the last three years:

(In lakh tonnes)

Commodity	1989-90	1990-91	1991-92
Finished Fertilizers			
UREA	..	..	3.91
DAP	28.15	21.55	20.77
MOP	20.82	21.20	20.40
SOP	0.25	0.59	..
NPK	1.09	1.56	0.73

(b) Broadly the Government have taken following steps to increase the fertilizer application:

(i) The major chemical fertilizers are being made available to the farmers at subsidized rates.

(ii) The Government of India implemented a scheme during the 7th Plan for opening retail outlets in remote and inaccessible areas.

(iii) Fertilizer use in small packs is being popularised to facilitate transportation to remote areas and to encourage use of fertilizers, among small farmers.

(iv) The States have been advised to exempt the dealers, upto a limit of 10 tonnes of fertilizers, from the requirement of obtaining dealership registration certificate for enhancing easy availability of fertilizers.

(v) The use of micronutrients is being popularised for improving the fertilizer use efficiency in intensively cultivated areas.

(vi) Demonstration of benefits of fertilizer use and balanced/efficient application of fertilizers is being organised by State Agricultural Expansion agencies.

(vii) Soil testing facilities are being strengthened to assist farmers with appropriate advice on proper use of fertilizers.